



STATE OF VERMONT
Department of Education
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Montpelier, VT 05620-2501

State Board of Education Announces Election of Officers

MONTPELIER – The State Board of Education elected officers at its March 17 meeting, the Department of Education announced today. Tom James of Essex was re-elected Board chair, and Ruth Stokes of Williston was re-elected vice-chair.

James was appointed to the Board by Governor Douglas in February 2005 after filling an unexpired term. A retired IBM executive, James has served as a member of the Essex Planning Commission, the Essex Town School Board, the Essex Town Selectboard and the Essex Rotary. His State Board term will end in 2011.

Stokes has been a Board member since 2005. Since 1999, she has been the Executive Director of the Vermont Student Opportunity Scholarship Fund (VTSOS). Previously, she served as a state representative for Williston and Richmond, from 1989 to 1992. In addition, Stokes was a member of the University of Vermont Board of Trustees from 1989 to 1995, serving the last two years as chair. She served as a member of her town's school board from 1975 to 1987, serving the last six years as chair. Stokes has also served on the executive board of the Vermont School Boards Association, and has taught high school science. Her State Board term will end in 2011.

In addition, three new members, who were appointed by Governor Douglas to the State Board of Education earlier this month, participated in their first meeting. Judith Livingston of Manchester, John Hall of West Danville and Don Collins of Swanton filled three vacant appointments on the Board. Further information will be available in a later release.

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